

# UPPER LEFT EDGE

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# You Can't Eat Money



On a good, long evening, the wind is louder than the surf at high tide, bending the tops of the very tall, slender trees in an irresistible tango, hypnotising, the slap of branches hitting the cabin roof or crashing in the brush breaking the spell like fringe breaking from a dancer's dress and tumbling to the ballroom floor.

In a matter of mere weeks, winter begins to release the daylight back to us. We can take advantage of these long evenings. They're perfect for playing games like "Unplugged" (one of my personal favorites). This game starts with a nice fire in the woodstove. You light a couple of kerosene lamps or candles, then turn off, one by one, the television sets, the C.D. players, the Nintendo, all radios, the dishwasher-- you get the idea. It works best if you wait a few minutes between each off-ing for the decrease in noise to settle in. Now, if you really want to have fun, go out to the familiar grey box and shut down all the wiring in your walls. Then, go sit by the fire and listen to your home.

Hemlock popping in the stove. Wind. Voices. Rain. Sounds too important to be obscured. When you throw the breakers and re-wrap yourself in little magnetic fields, consider what you turn on.

We're looking at a population tsunami, questionable food and water, assessments driving affordable housing into fantasyland, and \$80,000 educations that get your kid a spot at the crap table. How do we deal with it? The average family watches television more than seven hours a day. Good coping technique? No.

Leave it off. Talk to the people you live with and love, and see who they are today, and give them yourself, not the person you were a year or ten ago. Dar Williams, west Massachusetts singer/songwriter says in "The Great Unknown", "I'm just trying to put the atom back together". Sounds like fun to me.

Finally, tragedies like the disappearance of baseball in 1994 can drive even stalwart romantics like our Beloved Editor to despair, which is often underrated



Drawn from "Cree Woman", a photograph by Edward S. Curtis

as a motive force in human affairs. Indeed, there is a people who celebrate despair. One of them, using two of his land's important resources, sticks and sheep, contrived a complicated warning device, to be used when the Viking longboats would be sighted. Intended to be sent to the Harbourmaster's Office for examination, the contraption arrived by mistake at the Schoolmaster's. Unwilling to admit his ignorance, the schoolmaster introduced it to his students as a "bellows-flute". They seemed strangely drawn to it in the dark months of midwinter.

This led to their fathers inventing a stick game which begins pleasurably enough,

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"Only when the last tree has died, and the last river been poisoned, and the last fish been caught, will we realize that we can not eat money."  
19th century Cree saying



## MOONS & TIDES

### DECEMBER - High Tides

DATE	A.M. time ft.	P.M. time ft.
1 Fri	7:50 8.8	8:32 6.9
2 Sat	8:44 9.1	9:35 7.1
3 Sun	9:28 9.3	10:29 7.3
4 Mon	10:08 9.3	11:18 7.5
5 Tue	10:45 9.3	.....
6 Wed	0:03 7.6	.....
7 Thu	11:20 9.2	.....
8 Fri	0:45 7.7	.....
9 Sat	1:54 9.1	.....
10 Sun	1:24 7.2	12:28 9.0
11 Mon	2:03 7.7	1:02 8.8
12 Tue	2:39 7.7	1:37 8.6
13 Wed	3:16 7.7	2:15 8.2
14 Thu	3:53 7.7	2:58 7.8
15 Fri	4:32 7.8	3:50 7.3
16 Sat	5:15 7.9	4:55 6.8
17 Sun	6:00 8.1	6:15 6.5
18 Mon	6:52 8.4	7:37 6.4
19 Tue	7:42 8.8	8:50 6.7
20 Wed	8:32 9.3	9:54 7.0
21 Thu	9:21 9.7	10:51 7.4
22 Fri	10:11 10.1	11:45 7.8
23 Sat	11:00 10.3	.....
24 Sun	11:50 10.4	.....
25 Mon	1:24 8.4	12:41 10.2
26 Tue	2:12 8.6	1:33 9.9
27 Wed	3:00 8.8	2:27 9.3
28 Thu	3:47 8.8	3:24 8.6
29 Fri	4:35 8.9	4:27 7.8
30 Sat	5:26 8.9	5:38 7.1
31 Sun	6:18 8.9	6:54 6.7

### DECEMBER - Low Tides

DATE	A.M. time ft.	P.M. time ft.
1 Fri	1:27 1.6	2:34 1.3
2 Sat	2:24 2.0	3:32 0.6
3 Sun	3:16 2.2	4:23 0.1
4 Mon	4:04 2.5	5:07 -0.3
5 Tue	4:49 2.7	5:48 -0.5
6 Wed	5:31 2.8	6:26 -0.5
7 Thu	6:11 3.0	7:02 -0.5
8 Fri	6:50 3.1	7:36 -0.3
9 Sat	7:28 3.2	8:08 -0.1
10 Sun	8:06 3.3	8:40 0.1
11 Mon	8:47 3.3	9:11 0.4
12 Tue	9:31 3.3	9:46 0.8
13 Wed	10:22 3.3	10:26 1.2
14 Thu	11:23 3.1	11:13 1.7
15 Fri	.....	12:31 2.7
16 Sat	0:09 2.1	1:39 2.1
17 Sun	1:11 2.5	2:43 1.3
18 Mon	2:13 2.7	3:40 0.4
19 Tue	3:13 2.9	4:33 0.3
20 Wed	4:10 2.9	5:23 -0.9
21 Thu	5:06 2.8	6:12 -1.3
22 Fri	6:00 2.7	6:59 -1.5
23 Sat	6:54 2.6	7:46 -1.4
24 Sun	7:48 2.4	8:31 -1.1
25 Mon	8:43 2.3	9:17 -0.5
26 Tue	9:41 2.2	10:03 0.2
27 Wed	10:43 2.2	10:52 0.9
28 Thu	11:49 2.1	11:44 1.7
29 Fri	.....	0:59 1.8
30 Sat	0:42 2.3	2:07 1.4
31 Sun	1:41 2.8	3:09 0.9

# BASEBALL

Baseball, a fleeting memory of summers past. Hope for the future? Maybe, maybe not. Who knows. If Mr. Clinton wants to be re-elected, we would seriously recommend that he appoint a Commissioner of Baseball. It will do more to bring this country together than anything he could work out with Jesse or Newt.



## Holiday Letter to Jesus

Re: Business  
By Watt Childress

Though it may seem unorthodox, I humbly ask your indulgence with this letter. The time and place move me to write you, my hero, life's hairy champion from the Galilean hills. Because you have urged mankind to forego material gain from matters of Spirit, there is no soul who will better understand my testimony.

People today seldom discuss business on dates deemed holy. Most folk figure a man makes whatever a man can make during the other days of the year, and holidays grant us social license to kick back and celebrate such makings. Economic exchange is tendered in purely secular terms while the major brands of holiness are billed as abstract ritual, transcending practical issues of debt and redemption.

Money is the prime determinant for how we utilize resources, and so today's commerce places little stock in anything spiritual. What exists of an internal life for today's Americans is devoted to financial, social, and political advancement. Few folk find personal

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